

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Volunteer Program Office Rocky Mountain National Park Estes Park, Colorado 80517

Updated 3/18/14

Dear Potential Volunteer Group,

Thank you for your interest in volunteering at Rocky Mountain National Park!

Rocky is home to one of the most dynamic and hard-working volunteer programs in the National Park Service. Each year, Rocky utilizes volunteer groups to augment paid-staff on various projects during the summer. It's a great way for the park to get work done AND the groups to learn a lot about their park through service.

In 2013, over 600 volunteers served at Rocky by taking part in a group volunteer opportunity. These groups came from our neighboring towns in Colorado or other parts of the country to serve a day or more in the park. We offer opportunities for groups ranging in size from 2-25 (depending on the project and including any adult leaders). If your group is smaller or larger than the posted size, or you have members of the group that are under the age limit, please contact the volunteer office directly to see if we can accommodate you. We're willing to get creative to accommodate your group.

Some things to keep in mind when planning a day of volunteering in Rocky:

- 1. For all projects, we ask that the volunteers wear long pants, long sleeve shirts, and closed-toed shoes or boots. We also ask that groups come prepared for a day of work by bringing plenty of water, food, a hat and sunscreen and clothes appropriate for the weather.
- 2. Volunteer groups bringing children need to provide one adult leader for every five volunteers under the age of 18.
- 3. The volunteer office will provide the group with a free entrance pass to the park for the dates of service (this will be mailed or emailed to the group point of contact ahead of time). The supervisors of the groups will provide leadership, tools and equipment for the projects as well as any safety equipment necessary. Additionally, a short orientation and safety briefing is given prior to your group starting work.
- 4. Rocky Mountain National Park is a high-elevation park ranging from 7,600 to over 14,000 feet above sea-level. Most volunteer work takes place between 7,600 and 12,000 feet in elevation. Keep this in mind when planning your work here... make sure that you get accustomed to the elevation before your scheduled work day.
- 5. We may be able to provide your group with free camping in the Administrative Loop of Moraine Park Campground. For every four hours of service, groups may be eligible for one night of camping. Free group camping is based on availability. Please see the camping section of the group application form (to follow) to request your camping. Also note that all group members staying in the Moraine Park Admin

Loop campsites will be required to participate in the volunteer work. Volunteer groups must provide all of their own camping equipment.

- 6. Projects may change depending on the current needs of the park, weather conditions or staffing changes. Your group will be notified a week in advance if your project is scheduled to change.
- 7. Check the weather conditions and come prepared. In the summer months, it might rain, become very windy or even very cold at higher elevations. In contrast, your day of service might be during a warm spell in the park. It's your responsibility to check the weather and plan accordingly.

Once you have considered the above information, and would like to volunteer at Rocky, please have a look at the catalog of opportunities to follow. Using the specific group size and age requirements for each project, apply for the project(s) that your group is qualified for. Please also provide an alternative project (or two) in the case that your first choice has already been assigned a group. Using the attached group application form, please provide all of the required information, and submit the form via email, mail or fax to the volunteer office. Upon receipt, you will receive an email or call from the volunteer office for confirmation as well as to give you an idea of if/when your project will be scheduled.

Remember, an application does not guarantee a project. Please wait for paperwork from the volunteer office before making plans for your project. Group projects will be assigned in the order that the applications are received.

For questions on the group volunteer program at Rocky Mountain:

Call: 970-586-1330

Email: romo_volunteers_in_parks@nps.gov

Mail: Volunteer Office

Rocky Mountain National Park

1000 Highway 36 Estes Park, CO 80517

Website: http://www.nps.gov/romo/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm

Thank you again for your interest in volunteering with your group at Rocky!

Sincerely,

Lindsey Prell Volunteer Program Manager Rocky Mountain National Park



The following is a list of group volunteer projects planned for the spring, summer and early fall of 2014. Please check each specific project regarding group size and age limitations. Apply for the project(s) that meet your group's qualifications, interest and availability.

RESTORATION

Description:

Help park revegetation staff plant native plants in one of several restoration sites. Sites may vary from alpine Tundra to montane meadows to campgrounds and roadsides. Volunteers are needed to spread topsoil, rake and prepare planting surfaces, install erosion control, sow seeds, harvest willows, plant native plants, and water restoration sites. This is a great opportunity to get outside and get your hands dirty!

Group Size: 5-15 **Minimum Age:** 15

Dates of projects: June 11,18,20,21, 25, July 9,16,18,19,23,25,26,30, Aug 1,2,5,8,9,13,15,16,20,22,23,

27, Sep 3,8,10,12,13,17,24 Time: 8:00-4:00 (flexible) Conditions and Safety:

Volunteers must perform all tasks in a safe manner using the appropriate tools for the task and wearing the necessary personal protective gear required for the task. Work tools, gloves and safety vests will be provided by the NPS work leader. Care must be exercised when working on/off-trail and near rivers/streams. Work will take place outdoors and working conditions will be variable. Volunteers should dress appropriately for the work & weather: long pants, long sleeved shirt, and sturdy shoes/boots etc. Work typically involves hiking over uneven, potentially rocky and wet, slippery terrain. Potential hazards include exposure to scratchy or thorny vegetation, irritating vegetation (i.e. knapweed), biting or stinging insects, wildlife, allergens (i.e. pollen, dust, etc.) and other hazards typical of outdoor work environments. Moderate to strenuous physical exertion may be required. Project may require ability to lift up to 50 pounds.

Please note that project may change in scope depending on the needs of the park. Group may need to provide own transportation to and from work sites.

INVASIVE SPECIES CREW

Description:

Invasive plants are spreading throughout the park and are crowding out native species and reducing high quality wildlife habitat. Help the park's invasive species control staff remove invasive exotic plants. Most sites are in the montane regions of the park, consisting of campgrounds, roadsides, and also meadows with sweeping vistas. Volunteers are needed to hand pull invasive plants from the ground, dig up plants with a shovel, and clip and bag flower heads of certain species.

Group Size: 5-20 **Minimum Age:** 15

Dates of projects: May ## June ##,17,18,20,21,24,##, July ##,9,9,15,16,18,19,22,##,25,26,29,30, Aug

1,2,5,6,8,9, 12,13,15,16,19,20,22,23,26,27, Sep 3,9,10,12,13,16,17,23,24

Time: 8:00-4:00 (flexible)
Conditions and Safety:

Volunteers must perform all tasks in a safe manner using the appropriate tools for the task and wearing the necessary personal protective gear required for the task. Work tools, gloves and safety vests will be provided by the NPS work leader. Care must be exercised when working on/off-trail and near rivers/streams. Work will take place outdoors and working conditions will be variable. Volunteers should dress appropriately for the work & weather: long pants, long sleeved shirt, and sturdy shoes/boots etc. Work typically involves hiking over uneven, potentially rocky &/or wet, slippery terrain. Potential hazards include exposure to scratchy or thorny vegetation, irritating vegetation (i.e. knapweed), biting or stinging insects, wildlife, allergens (i.e. pollen, dust, etc.) and other hazards typical of outdoor work environments. Moderate to strenuous physical exertion may be required. Project may require ability to lift up to 50 pounds.

Please note that project may change in scope depending on the needs of the park. Group may be required to provide own transportation to and from the worksite.

GREENHOUSE

Description:

Help the park's greenhouse staff grow tens of thousands of native plants for restoration projects throughout the park. Volunteers are needed to transplant seedlings into larger pots, water native plants, clean seeds, mix soil and help with general upkeep of the nursery. Actual duties will depend on the varying needs of the greenhouse at the time of the project.

Group Size: 5-10 Minimum Age: 15

Dates of projects: June 4 July 2 Aug 6

Group Size: 4-10

Time: 8:00-4:00 (flexible)
Conditions and Safety:

Volunteers must perform all tasks in a safe manner using the appropriate tools for the task and wearing the necessary personal protective gear required for the task. Work tools, gloves and safety vests will be provided by the NPS work leader. Care must be exercised when working on/off-trail and near rivers/streams. Work will take place outdoors and working conditions will be variable. Volunteers should dress appropriately for the work & weather: long pants, long sleeved shirt, and sturdy shoes/boots etc. Work typically involves hiking over uneven, potentially rocky and wet, slippery terrain. Potential hazards include exposure to scratchy or thorny vegetation, irritating vegetation (i.e. knapweed), biting or stinging insects, wildlife, allergens (i.e. pollen, dust, etc) and other hazards typical of outdoor work

environments. Moderate to strenuous physical exertion may be required. Project may require ability to lift up to 50 pounds.

Please note that project may change in scope depending on the needs of the park.

LOG HAULING

Description:

Help the staff in the seasonal moving of logs to help protect park resources including vegetation and wildlife. The main duties are:

- 1. Move logs from Horseshoe Park to Moraine Park.
- 2. Place along approved roadways and distances.
- 3. Work well with park staff and other volunteers.
- 4. Follow all safety guidelines.
- 5. Help with traffic control while logs are moved.

Conditions and Safety:

Log hauler volunteers may utilize a variety of tools if needed. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be utilized at all times. Much of this work is physically demanding and involves lifting up to 40 pounds and is done at elevations between 8,000 and 9,000 feet. Work is a one to two day operation in August. The VIP uniform is not required.

Group Size: 5-15 **Minimum Age:** 12

Date of project: Thursday August 28

Time: ½ day

TRAILS PROJECTS

Description:

Assist Rocky Mountain's Trail Crew with a variety of trail projects for the summer. Projects vary and may include: flood recovery and tread repair on all of the park's accessible front-country trails, including Sprague Lake, Lily Lake and Bear Lake. Volunteers might be doing trail repair / reconstruction, digging with a shovel, use of picks and Pulaski's, root removal and possible log check / water bar construction, digging drains, doing temporary heavy lifting while moving logs into place with timber tongs, using wordworking skills and use of traditional hand tools.

Conditions and Safety:

This usually is a 7am-5:30pm project and requires hiking at elevation while doing physical labor. Must be able to hike long distances and do physical work. Moderate to Strenuous work (can be catered to group size, their goals, demographic, etc.)

Group Size: 2-20 (ideally 5-10)

Minimum Age: 18

Dates of project: Mondays-Thursdays from June 9 – September 25. Dates taken: 5/26, 6/9, 6/12, 6/16,

7/1, 7/2, 7/3, 7/8, 7/10, 7/23, 7/31, 8/6

Time: 7:00-5:30

Please note that project may change in scope depending on the needs of the park. Group may need to provide own transportation to and from work sites.

CAMPRGROUND PROJECT

Description:

Help our campground staff with maintenance of tent pads prior to our busy summer season! Volunteers will be removing rocks and other debris from the tent pads along with the help of our campground rangers.

Conditions and Safety: Light lifting, walking on uneven terrain outside in a variety of weather conditions

Group Size: 2-20 **Minimum Age:** 9

Dates: May 11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18

Time: 9am-3pm (flexible)

Note: This project is weather-dependent. If Rocky gets mid-May snowfall, the volunteer project might be

changed to something more suitable for the weather.

FIRE FUELS REDUCTION PROJECT

Description:

Help Rocky's Firefighters keep Rocky safe! We're looking for volunteers to assist our fire crews with fuel reduction projects. Downed trees, limbs and branches need to be collected and piled up to be later burned or removed to create defensible space around the park! Volunteers might be hiking up to ½ mile to get to the work site, then walking around, bending over and picking up branches, logs and sticks and putting them in piles. This is a very important project to help the park and the surrounding community.

Group Size: 5-25 (possibly more)

Minimum Age: 8

Dates: May 27-September 27 (7 days per week) Dates taken: 6/9, 6/24, 6/26, 7/1, 7/8, 7/2, 7/9, 7/10

Time: 8am-4pm (flexible)

Note: This project might change depending on the weather, or if our firefighters are called to an active

wildfire.

PAINTING PROJECT

Description:

Help Rocky Mountain staff paint benches at our amphitheater! This project involves painting the bench seats at Glacier Basin Camp Ground Amphitheater. All safety procedures will be covered ahead of time and the park will provide paint shirts and gloves. Painting skills aren't required but would be helpful.

Group Size: 5-10 **Minimum Age:** 12

Dates: May 5,6,7,8,9,12,13, 4,15,16

Time: 9am-4pm (flexible)

2014 Volunteer Group Catalog (by date)

May 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5 Painting Project	6 Painting Project	7 Painting Project	8 Painting Project	9 Painting Project	10
11 Campground Project	12 Campground Project Painting Project	13 Campground Project Painting Project	14 Campground Project Painting Project	15 Campground Project Painting Project	16 Campground Project Painting Project	17 Campground Project
18 Campground Project	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Fire Fuels Reduction	28 Fire Fuels Reduction	29 Fire Fuels Reduction	30 Fire Fuels Reduction	31 Fire Fuels Reduction

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June 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Fire Fuels Reduction	2 Fire Fuels Reduction	3 Fire Fuels Reduction	4 Fire Fuels Reduction	5 Fire Fuels Reduction	6 Fire Fuels Reduction	7 Fire Fuels Reduction
8 Fire Fuels Reduction	9 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	10 Invasive Species Craw Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	11 Restoration Invesive Species Craw Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	12 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	13 Fire Fuels Reduction	14 Fire Fuels Reduction
15 Fire Fuels Reduction	16 Fire Fuels Reduction Thails Project	17 Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	18 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	19 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	20 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction	21 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction
22 Fire Fuels Reduction	23 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	24 Invasive Species Crew Greenhouse Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	25 Restoration Invasive Species Craw Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	26 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	27 Fire Fuels Reduction	28 Fire Fuels Reduction
29 Fire Fuels Reduction	30 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project					

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July 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Invasive Species Crew Thails Project Fire Fuels Reduction	2 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	3 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	4	5
6	7 Trails Project	8 Imvasive Species Grew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	9 Restoration Invasive Species Craw Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	10 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	11 Fire Fuels Reduction	12 Fire Fuels Reduction
13 Fire Fuels Reduction	14 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	15 Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	16 Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	17 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	18 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction	19 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction
20 Fire Fuels Reduction	21 Fire Fuels Reduction Thails Project	22 Invasive Species Crew Greenhouse Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	Restoration Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	24 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	25 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction	26 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction
27 Fire Fuels Reduction	28 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	29 Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	30 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	31 Trails Project		

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August 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction	2 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction
3	4 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	5 Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	6 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Greenhouse Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	7 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	8 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction	9 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction
10 Fire Fuels Reduction	11 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	12 Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	13 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	14 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	15 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction	16 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction
17 Fire Fuels Reduction	18 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	19 Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	20 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	21 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	22 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction	23 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction
24 Fire Fuels Reduction	25 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	26 Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	27 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	28 Log Move Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	29 Fire Fuels Reduction	30 Fire Fuels Reduction

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September 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	4 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	5 Fire Fuels Reduction	6 Fire Fuels Reduction
7 Fire Fuels Reduction	8 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project Restoration	9 Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	10 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	11 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	12 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction	13 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction
14 Fire Fuels Reduction	15 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	16 Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	17 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	18 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	19 Fire Fuels Reduction	20 Fire Fuels Reduction
21 Fire Fuels Reduction	22 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	23 Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	24 Restoration Invasive Species Crew Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	25 Fire Fuels Reduction Trails Project	26 Fire Fuels Reduction	27 Fire Fuels Reduction
28	29	30				

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Rocky Mountain National Park 2014 Volunteer Group Application



Group (Group (Person:	Contact		Date of Application:			
	s of Contact:		Contact Phone Number:			
Λαρ(ε) (of Group		Email Address:			
	ers (min-		Total Number of Volun (including leaders):	teers		
Has this	group volunteered in Rocky Mou	untain in the past? Y	ES NO			
-	ferred projects / dates/ in order o	of preference: (We e	ncourage you to list more t	han one proje	ct option, as you	ur first choice may not
be avai Volunt	able). eer Work Date/s	Project Name		Arrival Date	Departure Date	Campsites needed?
1 st Choic	re					(yes or no)
2 nd Choice						
3 rd						
Choice						
Please needs,	use the space below to provide ac	ditional information	, including: relevant skill se	ts/experience	, preferences ab	out projects, special
Submi	t application(s) to:		Pri	vacy Act Statem	nent	
Mail:	romo_volunteers_in_parks@ Volunteer Office Rocky Mountain National Par 1000 Highway 36 Estes Park, CO 80517 ons? Call 970-586-1330	USDA which	ction and use is covered by Pri VOP-1, and is consistent with a authorizes acceptance of the to maintain official records of v s voluntary, however if this for	vacy Act Systen the provisions of information requ rolunteers of the	n of Records OPM f 5 USC 552a (Priv uested on this forn USDA and USDI.	vacy Act of 1974), n. The data will be Furnishing this
	cial Use:			1.75		
	Application Received:		Date Campground Appro			
	Supervisor Contacted:		Date Paperwork sent to	-	•	
	Supervisor Approval:/	Or Reason for Not Ap	oproving:			
Notes						